



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

LOUIS A. DePASQUALE

City Manager

March 8, 2019

LISA C. PETERSON

Deputy City Manager

To All Interested Parties:

This letter is a Notice of Intent (NOI), under 49 CFR Ch. II Part 222 Subpart C Section 222.43, to modify the existing Supplemental Safety Measures (SSMs) at the Sherman Street Quiet Zone to create an Alternative Safety Measure (ASM). The City of Cambridge is seeking approval from the Federal Railroad Administration to alter the configuration of the two medians that comprise the SSM at the train horn sounding Quiet Zone (QZ) within the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, at Sherman Street, on the Fitchburg Main Line of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) North Side Commuter Rail.

The specific information regarding this proposed Alternative Safety Measure is as follows:

US DOT National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Inventory Number	052313H
Public Roadway Name	Sherman Street
Time Period of Train Horn Restrictions	24 hours/day, 7 days/week
Plans for Improvements	<p>The City of Cambridge is seeking approval for an Alternative Safety Measures that will modify the existing medians and driveways to restore access to adjacent properties, which has been limited as part of the SSM installation.</p> <p>The proposed modifications will include the following adjustments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removing 35 feet of the non-traversable median on the south side of the grade crossing, maintaining a 25-foot non-traversable median;• Reconstructing the Cambridge Montessori School curb cut to provide a 24-foot wide driveway located a minimum of 25 feet south of the railroad crossing gates; and• Removing 8 feet of the non-traversable median on the north side of the grade crossing, maintaining a 52-foot non-traversable median. <p>The Risk Index with the proposed ASM will be 69,094, which is substantially below the Risk Index with Horns</p>



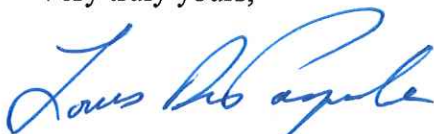
	<p>(QZRI) of 85,116. The effectiveness of the Proposed ASM is the sum of the length of the proposed medians (25'+52'=77') divided by the length of the current median (120'): $77/120=0.64$, then adjusted based on the 0.8 effectiveness factor of a non-traversable median ($0.64 \times 0.8 = 0.51$)</p>
Public Authority Point of Contact	<p>Joseph E. Barr, AICP Director of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation 344 Broadway, Second Floor Cambridge, MA 02139 <i>jbarr@cambridgema.gov</i> 617-349-4743</p>
Parties Receiving Notification	<p>Railroad Owner: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Steve Poftak, General Manager 10 Park Plaza, Suite 4510 Boston, MA 02116 Copies to: Ryan Cohoan, Chief Railroad Officer</p> <p>Railroad Operators: Keolis Commuter Services David Scorey, General Manager 470 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02210</p> <p>Pan Am Railways David Fink, President 1700 Iron Horse Park North Billerica, MA 01862</p> <p>State Agency Responsible for Highway and Road Safety Massachusetts Department of Transportation Stephanie Pollack, Secretary and Chief Executive Officer 10 Park Plaza, Suite 4160 Boston, MA 02116 Copies to: Jonathan Gulliver, Highway Administrator</p> <p>State Agency Response for Grade Crossing Safety Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities Matthew Nelson, Chairman One South Station, Fifth Floor</p>

	<p>Boston, MA 02110</p> <p>Copies to:</p> <p>Brian Christy, Director, Transportation Oversight Division</p> <p>Law Enforcement Authority Responsible for Vehicular Traffic</p> <p>Cambridge Police Department Branville G. Bard, Commissioner 125 Sixth Street Cambridge, MA 02142</p> <p>Federal Railroad Administration Associate Administrator for Safety</p> <p>Robert Lauby 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Mail Stop 25 Washington, DC 20590</p>
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Parties that wish to provide information or comments on this proposed installation of the Alternative Safety Measure for the Sherman Street QZ, or indicate that they do not have comments, should do so within 60-days from the mailing of this NOI, to the Public Authority Point of Contact listed above.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Louis A. DePasquale
City Manager